What is claimed is:

1: A contactless push-button device comprising:

a push-button element that is linearly displaceable between a first position and a second position and biased to move from the second position to the first position;

a magnet mounted to the push button element;

a Hall Effect transducer mounted in line with the linear displacement direction of the pushbutton so that when the push-button moves from the first position to the second position the distance between the magnet and the Hall Effect transducer changes;

a programmable microprocessor for being assigned a unique address, the programmable microprocessor electrically connected to the Hall Effect Transducer;

- 2. The contactless push-button device of claim 1, further comprising a plate mounted between the push-button element and the Hall Effect Transducer.
- 3. The contactless push-button device of claim 1, further comprising a feedback device that is electrically connected to the microprocessor.
- 4. The contactless push-button device of claim 1, further comprising a system controller that is interfaced with the microprocessor, the controller assigning an address to the push-button device during a start-up procedure.
- 5. The contactless push-button device of claim 1, wherein the microprocessor is programmed to contain a unique address.
 - 6. The contactless push-button device of claim 3 further comprising: a serial bus connected to the microprocessor; and an elevator controller connected to the serial bus.

- 7. The contactless push-button switch of claim 6, wherein the serial bus is an RS 485 bus.
 - 8. A switching device comprising:
 - a Hall Effect transducer;
 - a movable magnetic element that moves relative to the Hall Effect transducer;
- a programmable microprocessor electrically connected to the Hall Effect transducer, the microprocessor programmed to execute a field averaging algorithm to compensate for changes in quiescent Hall Effect voltages, the programmable microprocessor also programmed to contain a unique address; and
- a communication interface for connecting the microprocessor to a controller; the communication interface connected to the microprocessor.
- 9. The switching device of claim 8, wherein the microprocessor is further programmed to detect when the magnetic element moves.
 - 10. An elevator system comprising:
 - an elevator controller;
 - a programmable contactless push-button device comprising:
 - (i) a Hall Effect transducer having a quiescent Hall Effect voltage;
- (ii) a moving magnet located in line with the Hall Effect transducer, the moving magnet being linearly displaceable along the line formed by the magnet and the Hall Effect transducer; and
- (iii) a microprocessor that is interfaced with the Hall Effect transducer; the microprocessor programmed to calculate running averages for the quiescent voltage, the microprocessor also having a unique address; and

a serial bus connecting the microprocessor to the elevator controller.

- 11. The elevator system of claim 10, wherein the microprocessor is further programmed to detect when the magnet moves.
 - . 12. A contactless, rotary switch device comprising:

a rotating disk having a surface;

one or more magnets disposed on the disk; and

one or more Hall Effect transducers located on a planar surface that is parallel to the surface of the disk, the distance between the Hall Effect transducers and the magnets varying as the disk rotates.

- 13. The device of claim 12, further comprising a programmable microprocessor that is electrically connected to the microprocessor.
- 14. The device of claim 13, further comprising a system controller that is interfaced with the microprocessor, the controller for assigning an address to the rotary switch device during a start-up procedure.
- 15. The device of claim 13, wherein the microprocessor is programmed to contain a unique address.
 - 16. The device of claim 13 further comprising: a serial bus connected to the microprocessor; and an elevator controller connected to the serial bus.
 - 17. A switch comprising:

a plurality of Hall Effect transducers disposed on a planar surface;

a rotatable disk that is parallel to the planar surface;

a first set of magnets disposed on the disk, at least two magnets in the first set having their polarities oriented in different directions;

a second set of magnets disposed on the disk, at least two magnets in the second set having their polarities oriented in different directions;

the disk having a first position where one or more magnets in the first set is located over each Hall Effect transducer; and

the disk having a second position where one or more magnets in the second set is located over each Hall Effect transducer, and at least one transducer having a magnet over it with a polarity oriented differently than when the disk is in the first position.

- 18. The switch of claim 17, further comprising a microprocessor that is interfaced with the Hall Effect transducers.
 - 19. The switch of claim 18, wherein the microprocessor has a unique address.
- 20. The switch of claim 19, further comprising a serial bus wired to the microprocessor, the serial bus for connecting the switch to an elevator controller.